

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 BEIRUT 01068 231712Z

62

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 NEA-09 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

PA-02 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSC-05 PM-03

IO-10 OMB-01 /078 W

----- 011357

R 231603Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 2513

AMCONSUL ASMARA

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

UNCLAS BEIRUT 1068

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT PFOR ET XF

SUBJECT: ETHIOPIAN PRESS CONFERENCE IN BEIRUT

REFS: A. BEIRUT 978; B. ADDIS ABABA 297 AND PREVIOUS

1. IN JAN 23 PRESS CONFERENCE HERE ETHIOPIAN MININFORMATION MIKAEL IMRU WARNED ETHIOPIAN-ARAB RELATIONS WOULD BE DAMAGED IF "CERTAIN ARAB GOVTS" CONTINUED "ACTIVE SUPPORT" OF ERITREAN LIBERATION FRONT (ELF), BUT DENIED HIS PRESENT ME MISSION IS PRIMARILY DESIGNED TO RAISE FUNDS FOR "POVERTY-STRIKEN" ETHIOPIA OR TO NEUTRALIZE ARAB SUPPORT FOR ELF. PURPOSE OF TOUR, ACCORDING TO IMRU, IS "TO CONSOLIDATE (ETHIOPIAN-ARAB) TIES AND TO ALLAY MIS-UNDERSTANDINGS IN ARAB WORLD CONCERNING ERITREA." ELABORATING ON MISSION, IMRU SAID SOME ARAB STATES ARE "VERY MUCH MISINFORMED ABOUT NATURE OF ERITREAN SITUATION AND ERITREA, WHICH IS GEOGRAPHICALLY AND ETHNICALLY PART OF ETHIOPIA".

2. COMMENTING ON RECENT TRIP TO EGYPT, IMRU SAID OFFICIALS THERE ARE "ANXIOUS TO IMPROVE RELATIONS WITH ETHIOPIA," AND UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 BEIRUT 01068 231712Z

ACKNOWLEDGED DIFFICULTY OF STOPPING "DISSIDENTS" FROM ENTERING

EGYPT SINCE MANY CLAIM AFFILIATION WITH MUSLIM RELIGIOUS SOCIETIES.  
HE ALSO EXPRESSED CONFIDENCE THAT SYRIA, UNTIL NOW STAUNCH SUPPORTER  
OF ELF, WOULD BE RECEPTIVE TO HIS MISSION, SINCE CHANGED ETHIOPIAN  
POLITICAL SITUATION (END OF FEUDAL REGIME) HAS NULLIFIED MANY ELF  
GRIEVANCES. HE SAID TALKS WITH LEBANESE PRES FRANGIE (REF A)  
WERE "VERY CORDIAL AND FRIENDLY, "ADDING FRANGIE HAD "REAL  
UNDERSTANDING FOR NECESSITY OF REFORMS IN ETHIOPIA."

3. IMRU ENDED PRESS CONFERENCE BY EMPHATICALLY DENYING ANY ISRAELI  
MILITARY ADVISORS REMAINED IN ETHIOPIA. HE DESCRIBED QUESTION AS  
"QUITE ASTOUNDING", CONSIDERING ETHIOPIA SEVERED RELATIONS  
WITH ISRAEL AFTER OCTOBER WAR.  
GODLEY

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** RECOGNITION, PALESTINIANS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, LIBERATION FRONTS, PRESS CONFERENCES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 23 JAN 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975BEIRUT01068  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750026-0286  
**From:** BEIRUT  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19750128/aaaaayfu.tel  
**Line Count:** 74  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION AF  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 75 BEIRUT 978, 75 ADDIS ABABA 297  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** MorefiRH  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 09 APR 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <09 APR 2003 by SilvaL0>; APPROVED <10 NOV 2003 by MorefiRH>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
05 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** ETHIOPIAN PRESS CONFERENCE IN BEIRUT  
**TAGS:** PINT, PFOR, ET, XF, ELF  
**To:** ADDIS ABABA  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006